

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 04740 070558Z

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ACTION NEA-01

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R 061440Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS JIDDA 4740

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FOR USIA FOR IOP/M, INA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: WEEKLY SAUDI EDITORIAL SUMMARY (JUNE 30 - JULY 6)

SUMMARY: MAJOR STRAIGHT NEWS STORIES THIS PAST WEEK

PARALLELED EDITORIAL CONCERNS: U.S. BICENTENNIAL, LEBANESE

CRISIS, AND ISRAELI RAID IN UGANDA. END SUMMARY.

1. BICENTENNIAL

U.S. BICENTENNIAL-RELATED ARTICLES AND EDITORIALS VIED
WITH LEBANON, AND UGANDA AS MAJOR ITEMS OF THE WEEK.

SPECIAL BICENTENNIAL SUPPLEMENTS IN BOTH ENGLISH

LANGUAGE DAILIES (INCLUDING USIS PROVIDED MATERIALS)

WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY ARAB NEWS EDITORIALIZING:

"A GREAT NATION IS TODAY CELEBRATING ITS BICENTENNIAL...

THE YOUNGEST AND PROBABLY STILL THE STRONGEST OF THE

SUPERPOWERS.... NEWLY INDEPENDENT CONTRIES,

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 04740 070558Z

AND AREAS WAITING TO OBTAIN THEIR INDEPENDENCE, ARE MUCH

FLATTERED AT THIS UNAFFECTED REACTION OF JOY BY AMERICANS AS THEY MARK 200 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE FROM BRITAIN. (THEY) ARE GRATIFIED STILL MORE BY THE FACT THAT THE FORMIDABLE U.S. WAS A COLONY ONLY TWO CENTURIES AGO AND ITS ARMY OF LIBERATION HAD TO GO THROUGH SIMILAR... ORDEALS BEING FACED NOW BY THE PALESTINIANS IN TEL ZAATAR, THE MUSLIMS IN THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES AND THE BLACKS IN SOUTH AFRICA."

ARABIC LANGUAGE DAILY UKA'AZ: "WE ARABS CONGRATULATE AMERICA ...HOPING THAT AMERICA WILL REMEMBER THE AGONY SUFFERED BY THE AMERICAN PATRIOTS DURING THEIR STRUGGLE TO BREAK LOOSE FROM BRITISH IMPERIALISM. WE ALSO HOPE THIS MEMORY WILL INDUCE AMERICA TO SUPPORT PEOPLE SEEKING THEIR INDEPENDENCE WHETHER IN PALESTINE, SOUTH AFRICA, OR SOMEWHERE ELSE."

2. LEBANON

AR-RIYADH DAILY, JUNE 6: "LEBANON IS PASSING THROUGH A BLACK JULY ARRANGED BY CERTAIN CIRCLES A LONG TIME AGO.... THE CONSPIRACY IS LEBANON IS LARGER IN SIZE THAN THE ARAB LEAGUE."

3. ISRAELI RAID IN UGANDA

AR-RIYADH DAILY 7/5: "(THE RAID WAS ALSO AIMED AT) DESTROYING THE OAU SINCE THE ISRAELI PLANES LANDED IN KENYA; THEREFORE A DIVISION IS MOST LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE IN THE OAU AND COULD LEAD TO A DEADLOCK IN THE AFRICAN SUMMIT IN MAURITIUS."

AL-MADINA DAILY 7/5; "A FLAGRANT INFRINGEMENT OF THE SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY OF AN INDEPENDENT STATE. IT EMPHASIZES THAT THE ZIONISTS HAVE SPHERES OF INFLUENCE IN AFRICA... (AND THAT) THESE BASES ARE AT THE DISPOSAL OF OUR ENEMY, ON SHORT NOTICE, TO ATTACK ANOTHER STATE."

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARAB NEWS, 7/6: "WORLD REACTION TO UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 JIDDA 04740 070558Z

THE ISRAELI VIOLATION OF UGANDA'S SOVEREIGNTY PROVIDES A STRIKING EXAMPLE OF HOW THE EAST/WEST POLIARIZATION IS GETTING DEEPER EACH PASSING DAY.... IN REMARKABLE CONTRAST TO AFRICAN AND ASIAN UNANIMITY IN CONDEMNING THE AGGRESSOR (ISRAEL), PRESIDENT FORD CONGRATULATED THE ISRAELIS ON THEIR DARING EXPLOIT.... WE ARE DISMAYED TO SEE UNSCRUPULOUS PIRATES GOING ON THE RAMPAGE, KILLING AND DYNAMITING AT RANDOM, THEN

RECEIVING LOUD ACCLAIM FROM SOME COUNTRIES."

JONES

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Decaption Note:
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: SOPN, SA
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